

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claim 1 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable record medium that stores a program for controlling at least one computer to perform a multicast process of delivering information to a plurality of delivery destinations, the process comprising:

generating groups including at least one data packet from a given set of data packets to be delivered;

determining a number of times greater than one that each of the groups should be transmitted repetitively before the delivery destinations respond to delivery and

repeating delivery of each of the groups generated ~~by the group generating unit~~ as many times determined as specified by said determining ~~unit~~.

2. (Previously Presented) The record medium according to claim 1, wherein the group generating determines a number of data packets included in each group according to a state of a communication line or delivery destination.

3. (Previously Presented) The record medium according to claim 1, wherein said generating determines a total amount of data included in each data packet included in each group according to a state of a communication line or delivery destination.

Claims 4-5 (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The record medium according to claim 1, further comprising measuring a congestion state of a system based on time needed for accessing a memory and a state of load on a processor.

7. (Previously Presented) The record medium according to claim 1, further comprising redelivering a previously delivered data packet when one of the delivery destinations has reported that the data packet could not be received.

8. (Previously Presented) A multicast delivery method for delivering information to a plurality of delivery destinations, comprising:

generating groups including at least one data packet from a group of data packets to be delivered;

determining a number of times each of the groups should be transmitted repetitively before the delivery destinations respond to the delivery, the number of times being greater than one; and

repeating delivery of each of the groups generated by the group generating step as many times as specified by said determining.

Claims 9-12 Canceled.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable record medium storing a program that when executed controls a computer to perform a multicast process of delivering information to a plurality of delivery destinations said process comprising:

generating groups including at least one data packet from a given set of data packets to be delivered;

determining a number of times each of the groups is delivered;

repeating delivery of each of the groups as many times as specified by said determining;

specifying a number of delivery destinations to which data is delivered;

estimating a processing time required to handle each single response from the delivery destinations;

calculating a total response processing time; and

delivering control information including the total response processing time, to the delivery destinations so that the delivery destinations will respond at a randomly selected timing within the total response processing time after each group of data packets are received.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable record medium according to claim 13, further comprising repetitively delivering the groups before the delivery destinations respond to delivery.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable record medium according to claim 14, wherein a number of times each of the groups generated by the group generating unit is delivered is greater than one.